

§ 354.161

(a) Is conducted under the authority of laws, ordinances, or similar enactments of the State, county, city, or other political subdivision in which is located the official plant at which the ready-to-cook rabbits are prepared and

(b) Imposes at least the requirements set forth in §354.161: *Provided*, That no such inspection shall be deemed acceptable to the Administrator with respect to any official plant in which ready-to-cook rabbits are prepared if he finds at any time that such requirements are not adequately enforced.

§ 354.161 Requirements as to manner of inspection.

(a) The inspection shall be conducted by an inspector who is a qualified veterinarian or under the supervision of a qualified veterinarian. All such inspectors shall be employed by the State, county, city, or other political subdivision in which the official plant is located.

(b) The inspection shall include post-mortem examination of each rabbit carcass during the evisceration operation.

(c) All carcasses which show evidence of disease or any other condition which may render them unwholesome or unfit for food shall be condemned and shall be destroyed for food purposes under the supervision of an inspector. Each carcass and part thereof which has been inspected and passed or containers of carcasses or parts thereof shall bear the identifying inspection symbol of the official inspection system and the marking devices or labels shall be in the custody of the inspector at all times.

§ 354.162 Determining compliance with § 354.161.

A qualified veterinary supervisor of the rabbit inspection service shall investigate the manner of operation of the inspection system to determine the adequacy of the post-mortem examination and the compliance with the requirements contained in §§354.160 to 354.162 prior to approving the official plant for the inspection of ready-to-cook rabbits. This supervisor, as well as any official graders who may be stationed in the official plant, shall periodically observe the inspection oper-

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ations in the official plant to determine that the requirements of §§354.160 to 354.162 are being met.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL

§ 354.210 Minimum standards for sanitation, facilities, and operating procedures in official plants.

The provisions of §§354.210 to 354.247 shall apply with respect to inspection service in all official plants. The table set forth in §354.247 indicates some of the types of material which may be used in the construction of equipment, utensils, and facilities for use in the plant.

BUILDINGS AND PLANT FACILITIES

§ 354.220 Buildings.

The buildings shall be of sound construction and kept in good repair, and shall be of such construction as to prevent the entrance or harboring of vermin.

(a) *Outside openings.* (1) The doors, windows, skylights, and other outside openings of the plant, except receiving rooms and live rabbit holding rooms, shall be protected by properly fitted screens or other suitable devices against the entrance of flies and other insects.

(2) Outside doors, except in receiving rooms and live rabbit holding rooms, shall be self-closing and so hung that not over ¼-inch clearance remains when closed. Screen doors shall open toward the outside of the building.

§ 354.221 Rooms and compartments.

Rooms and compartments used for edible products shall be separate and distinct from inedible products departments and from rooms where rabbits are slaughtered and skinned. Separate rooms shall be provided when required for conducting processing operations in a sanitary manner, and all rooms shall be of sufficient size to permit the installation of the necessary equipment for processing operations and the conduct of such operations in a sanitary manner.

(a) *Rooms for separate operation.* The official plant should have separate